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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/084,257	02/25/2002	Xiao Fei Huang	5306.P064	4360

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EXAMINER

DONAGHUE, LARRY D

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2154

DATE MAILED: 11/21/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/084,257

Applicant(s)

HUANG ET AL.

Examiner

Kamini S. Shah

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____.
- ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- ☐ Other: ____.

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-30 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hawkins et al (6,000,000).

Regarding claims 1 and 11, Hawkins et al. (USPN 6,000,000), hereafter referred to as Hawkins teach a system with means for:

- Coupling a handheld device to a server, the server having a first database and the handheld device having a second database, the handheld device having an application that allows a user to access the second database (figure 4 handheld computer file system and data bases 441-443; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).
- Determining whether the application needs to be updated (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45 such a need for reconcile the two calendar databases by coupling two computer system using communication link 140; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).
- Causing the server to provide to the handheld device an application update if the application needs to be updated (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).
- Causing the handheld device to record transactions performed on the second database by a user (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14 such as conduit library 421 may read the records from the handheld database one by one until an entire copy of the handheld database is created on the personal computer system 150).

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- Causing the handheld device to provide to the server transaction information, wherein the transaction information is related to the recorded transactions (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14 such as using SyncWriteRecord() function when new and modified records are copied to the handheld computer).
- Causing the server to extract data from the first database to be used to update the second database (figure 4; figure 6; col. 5, lines 14-36, such as the Sync Manager Library oversees the synchronization process and uses individual "Conduit" libraries to perform the synchronization of each database).
- Causing the server to provide to the handheld device at least a portion of the extracted data (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 2 and 12, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 11, respectively. They further teach means wherein the server provides metadata to the handheld device in providing the application update (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 3 and 13, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 11, respectively. They further teach means wherein coupling the handheld device to the server comprises coupling the handheld device to a companion device that can be coupled to the server (such as "the application Programming Interface (API) figure 4; figure 6; see col. 6, lines 5-27, and column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 4 and 14, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 11. They further teach means wherein a synchronization engine is configured to cause the server to provide the handheld device at least one of the application update or the extracted data (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 5 and 15, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 4 and 14, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine resides in the server (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 6 and 16, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 4 and 14, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine resides in a companion device that is coupled to the server and the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

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Regarding claims 7 and 17, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 4 and 14, respectively. He further teaches means wherein the synchronization engine resides in the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 8 and 20, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 1 and 11. They further teach means wherein a synchronization manager is configured to cause the handheld device to provide to the server the transaction information (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 9 and 21, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 8 and 20, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization manager resides in the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 10 and 22, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claims 8 and 20, respectively. They further teach means wherein the synchronization manager resides in a companion device that is coupled to the server and the handheld device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 18, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 14. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine also includes the means for causing the server to extract data (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 19, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 14. They further teach means wherein the synchronization engine also includes the means for causing the server to perform a transaction (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claims 23 and 24, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 20. They further teach means wherein the synchronization manager also includes the means for causing the handheld device to record transactions (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 25, Hawkins teaches a system comprising:

- A server having a first database and a synchronization engine, wherein the synchronization engine includes: a metadata unit to provide update information for an application, a transaction processor to perform a transaction on the first database, and a data extractor to extract data from the first database (figure 4;

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figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

- A handheld device coupled to the server, the handheld device having a second database and a synchronization client, the application to provide a user interface to the second database, wherein the synchronization client includes: a metadata importer to receive the update information, a transaction recorder to record transaction information of transactions performed on a second database by a user, and a data importer to update data stored in the second database based on data extracted from the first database (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 26, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 25. They further teach means wherein the handheld device is coupled to the server through a companion device (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 27, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 25. They further teach means wherein the handheld device further comprises a transaction database to store transaction information (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 28, Hawkins teaches a system comprising:

- A server having a main database and a synchronization engine wherein the synchronization engine includes: a metadata unit to provide update information for an application, a transaction processor to perform a transaction on the first database, and a data extractor to extract data from the first database (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).
- A companion device couplable to the server, the companion device having a second database and a synchronization client, wherein the synchronization client includes: a metadata importer to receive the update information and a data importer to update data stored in the second database based on data extracted from the first database (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).
- A handheld device couplable to the companion device, the application residing in the handheld device to provide a user interface to the local database, wherein the handheld device further includes: a local database and a transaction recorder to record transactions performed on the local database by a user via the application (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 29, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 28. They further teach means wherein the handheld device further comprises a transaction

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database to store transaction information (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Regarding claim 30, Hawkins teaches all the limitations as applied to claim 28. They further teach means wherein the handheld device further comprises a data storer to store extracted data in the local database (figure 4; figure 6; column 3, lines 3-9; column 4, lines 26-45; column 7, line 25 – column 8, line 14).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kamini S. Shah whose telephone number is 571-272-2279. The examiner can normally be reached on IFP.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Jack B. Harvey can be reached on 571-272-3896. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Kamini S Shah
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 2142

KSS